(b) whether Bharat Electronics and Electronics Corporation of India are likely to suffer due to Ministry's import programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) is at present engaged in the design and development of a main Digital Electronic Switching System. The C-DOT is not engaged in the manufacture of any telecommunication equipment.

(b) No Sir.

Withholding of Central Permission for Bodghat Project

1625. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has withheld permission for Bodhghat Hydro-electrical project in Madhya Pradesh which required destruction of sal forests in Bastar; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) This project involves submergence of 5.704 ha. of rich sal forest. A decision on the diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has not been possible because of inconsistent forest details furnished so far. A field visit is to be made in December, 1986 to determine the exact quantum of forests likely to be lost.

Prior Central Approval for projects in States

1626. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many schemes in States such as Bodhghat hydel power scheme are initiated without obtaining Central clearance from ecological point of view;

(b) whether Government propose to urge States to obtain prior Central approval of the project which require destruction of forests; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Forest "Conservation" Act, 1980 which came into force in October, 1980 provides that forest land cannot be diverted to non-forest use without prior approval of the Central Government. All the States have been advised that *ex-post facto* approval would not be granted for diversion of forest lands and that they should not take anticipatory action.

Communal Riots in the States

1627. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of deaths and value of property lost due to communal clashes in the country, state-wise, during the period from January to July, 1986;

(b) the total number of major riots, state-wise and number of deaths due to communal riots during the corresponding period of 1985; and

(c) what specific steps if any, have been or being taken by Government to maintain communal harmony in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) On the basis of available information, two statements (statement I and II) showing the requisite particulars are tached. (*See* below).

(c) The necessity of maintaining communal harmony and public order has been time and again stressed on the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. Suggestions have been made to them to streamline the administrative and intelligence machinery and for measures like arrest of anti-social elements, search and seizure for the recovery of arms and ammunition and action against the elements inciting communalism. Central forces have also been made available to the States as and when requests for the same are made. Apart from this, timely alerts are sounded and guidance and advice provided as and when required. A detailed set of guidelines for effective control of communal violence, which was reviewed and revised in 1985 has also been circulated amongst all the State Governments.

It is also in this context that the 15-Point programme of the former Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, was commended to the State Governments. The National Integration Council deliberated on various issues in its meeting held on 12th September, 1986.

In this connection, Home Minister has also addressed all the Chief Ministers of States/U.Ts in October, 1986.

Statement I

The Particulars of Major Communal Riots in the Country which occurred from 1-1-86 *to* 31-7-86

Place and date	No. of persons killed	Loss of property (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
BIHAR		
Nawada (April, 22)	10*	Not available
GUJARAT:		
Ahmedabad		
(Jan. 5-7)	9	7.73
(Jan., 22-24)	5	0.38
(March, 26-30)	4	0.05
(July, 9-17)	49	63.16
Veraval (March, 26-27)	13	246.98
KARNATAKA		
Ramanagaram (July, 22-25)	5	Not available
MADHYA PRADESH:		
Sehore (Feb. 16-17	8	100.00
MAHARASHTRA :		
Nasik (May 10)	8	43.05
Panwal (May. 10)	2	66.48

1	2	3
UTTAR PRADESH:		
Meerut (Feb. 26)	2	7.42
Neuria (March, 26-27) . . . . . (Pilibhit)	26	..
Allahabad (June, 14-18)	9	2.65

*According to the Govt. of Bihar, only 3 deaths can be attributed solely to communal violence.

Statement II

The Particulars of Major Communal Riots in the Country which occurred from 1-1-85 *to* 31-7-85

Sl. No.	Place and date	No. of persons killed	Loss of property (Rs. in lakhs)
ANDHRA PRADESH:			
1	Tendur-R.R. District- (Fev., 10-12) . .	..	10.00
2	Hyderabad city (March, 8-11) . . .	6	0.36
	Hyderabad city (March, 21-26) . . .	4	0.15
3	GUJARAT: (Till 23-7-85) . . .	237	589.29
UTTAR PRADESH			
4	Saharanpur (July, 22)	5	1.35

Pension to Widows of Freedom Fighters

1628. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applications of pension of widows of freedom fighters which are pending consideration at present;

(b) by when these are likely to be disposed of; and

(c) the number of such application cases pending disposal for more than a year and the reasons for not taking decisions so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) A special drive has been launched to dispose of the applications of widows who have applied for transfer of pension in their names. As a result, more than 600 cases have been disposed of and pension transferred to the applicants. About nine hundred cases are under various stages of processing and will be disposed of soon. Most of these cases are less than one year old. Difficulties are faced in quick transfer of pension where the freedom fighter did not give the name of his wife in his original application. In some cases, more than one person claimed to be the wife of the deceased freedom fighter.

2. The transfer of the pension to the widows has already been made automatic from September, 1983 by indicating the name of the wife in the sanction itself.